

## THE POST OFFICES OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, KENTUCKY

Washington County, at the western end of the Outer Bluegrass, has been described as primarily an agricultural county in a "well dissected upland or irregular hills and ridges."<sup>1</sup> Its 10,440 residents occupy 301 square miles. Springfield, its seat, lies forty five air miles southeast of downtown Louisville and almost that distance southwest of downtown Lexington.

Washington is drained entirely by the Chaplin and Little Beech Fork Rivers, Salt River tributaries. Little Beech flows roughly northwest through the county till it joins Chaplin River, below which (in Nelson Co.) it is known as the (Big) Beech Fork River. Both the Beech Fork and the Chaplin Rivers form the county's western border with Nelson County. Little Beech Fork branches (Hardins Creek, which forms part of Washington's boundary with Marion County, Cartwright, Long Lick, and Mayes Creeks, and Pleasant Run) and Chaplin River branches (Beaver and Sulphur Creeks, across which lies Anderson County, Glens and Thompsons Creeks) figure prominently in the county's history and as reference points for the location of its principal places.

The county was first settled in 1776 by James Sandusky (Sodowsky) on Pleasant Run, southeast of Springfield, and in 1799 by Samuel Cartwright on the creek named for him, west of the county seat. On June 22, 1792 one of the first acts of the new Kentucky legislature was the creation of Washington County wholly from Nelson County, making it the tenth county in order of formation and the first formed after statehood. It was named for the then US President George Washington. From its original area were taken part of Anderson County in 1827 and all of Marion County in 1834. Washington's present boundaries were assumed in April 1890 when several square miles of its northeast section were added to Mercer and Anderson Counties..

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Only the thirty six post offices believed to have been contained within the county's present boundaries will be included in this chapter.

The fourth class industrial city of Springfield (with a 1990 population of nearly 2,900 residents) is centered at the junction of US 150 and Ky 555. It was founded in December 1793 on a fifty acre site donated for the new county's seat by Gen'l. Matthew Walton, a Virginia-born surveyor and Revolutionary War officer. One of pioneer Kentucky's largest land-owners, he represented this district in the state's first General Assembly and introduced the legislation that created the county. The town, named for the many area springs, grew up around the first court house, built in early 1794, and its strategic location on one of the main roads between Louisville and the Bluegrass. The post office was established as Springfield Court House on April 9, 1796 with tavern owner Isaac Lansdale, the first postmaster. Local businesses now include dairy and tobacco processing and factories making cabinets, plastic pipes and fittings, insulation, and golf bags.

The county's second and third known post offices--Cunningham and Gist--have not been located. It is possible that one or both were in the area that became Marion County in 1834. Cunningham, which operated from 1826 to 1828, was probably named for one of two Washington County families, that of John (listed on the county's first tax list) or the Virginian, Andrew C., whose Washington County-born sons were (ca. 1820s) Springfield storekeepers. The other office, Gist, was established on January 7, 1826 with William Gist. its probable name source and the first postmaster, but closed about 1830.

The second of the county's three incorporated places with active post offices is Mackville. This sixth class city with some two hundred residents centers at the junction of Ky 152 and 433, 11½ miles ene of Springfield. On December 28, 1818 the Kentucky General Assembly authorized the establishment of a town to be called Maxville on part of a seven hundred acre tract granted before 1793 to Revolutionary War veteran Capt. John McKittrick. It is believed to have been named for its first settlers, McKittrick and the twin brothers Alexander and Richard McDonald. The post office was established sometime in the early 1820s, probably with Ambrose Clark (one of the town's first trustees) as its first postmaster, and was called Mackville. By the early 1840s the community, too, was known as Mackville or Macksville.<sup>2</sup> In February 1835 the Kentucky General Assembly defeated a bill submitted by Senator James McDonald of that vicinity to create a new county ~~to be called McDonald~~ from sections of Washington and Mercer that would be called McDonald and would center on Maxville. By the 1840s the place had become an important manufacturing town with cigar, shoe, and hat factories and a tanyard. Later a bank and the county's first high school were located here. It was incorporated in May 1861.

Just south and east of the confluence of Cartwright Creek and the Beech Fork River was the late eighteenth century settlement of Parker's Landing. Here Richard Parker operated one of the major flatboat shipping ports in the Salt River system. ~~Some four years~~ after Parker's death in 1799, his heirs sold some of his holdings to Frederick Hill (1755-1840), a Pennsylvania native, who had been managing Parker's warehouse. Hill expanded the late proprietor's activities, operating the local store, mill, and landing, and on January 17, 1818 had the place chartered as the town of Frederick's Burg. The local post office, however, was opened on December 15,

1828 (with Edward G. Overton, postmaster) as Fredericktown which it continued to be called till it closed in February 1911. Yet for most of the nineteenth century the community was locally known as Fredericksburg or, simply, The Burg. Plans for a major commercial city never materialized, and today Fredericktown, as it is identified on published maps, is but a small village just south of US 150, nine miles northwest of Springfield.

In the vicinity of a Catholic mission (now the Holy Rosary Church), established in the late 1820s, around 1 3/4 miles up Hardens Creek (10 1/2 miles west of Springfield), has been the inexplicably named hamlet of Manton. The local post office, in this name, was established on February 13, 1838, with George W. Moore, postmaster, but closed in September 1841. It was re-established on February 9, 1847 across the Marion County line (with Thomas R. Baker, postmaster) and operated through November 1865. On April 16, 1886 it was re-established again (with John G. Roby, postmaster) but this time as Blincoe, perhaps for Richard M. Blincoe or his mother Anna, who lived in that vicinity. But the community continued to be called Manton as it is today; when the office closed in May 1914 the Blincoe name closed with it.

Willisburg, the third of Washington County's incorporated towns with active post offices, extends for over a mile along Ky 53, 10 3/4 miles nne of Springfield. This sixth class city with some 220 residents was chartered by the legislature on February 1, 1838 and may have been named for one or more of the three Willis families then in the county. However, the first local post office, operating from December 13, 1838 to December 1839 (with Allen Yocum and Branford Farris as postmasters), was called Paoli, the name early applied to the local precinct. The post office was

re-established as Willisburgh on December 3, 1844, with William W. Phelps, postmaster, and became Willisburg in 1894. The town was incorporated in 1965.

Thompsons Creek and Beech Woods were two short lived and as yet unlocated antebellum post offices. The first, operating from September 7, 1839 to mid February 1840, with John Rutherford, its only postmaster, was named for the Chaplin River tributary, its probable site.<sup>3</sup> The Beech Woods post office operated from December 3, 1844 to mid March 1845, with Thomas Leachman, its only postmaster.

Jacob Snider (1805-1865) gave his family's name to the post office that served the later Fairview community on the Anderson County line, less than half a mile north of the present Blue Grass Parkway, and 18½ miles nne of Springfield. The Sniders, descendants of pioneer Harmon Snider, a German soldier who fought for the British in the American Revolution, lived on both sides of the Anderson line. Snider's post office, ~~was~~<sup>with</sup> Jacob as its only postmaster, operated from February 23, 1847 to April 1856.

On June 16, 1847 Henry B. Potts established the Pottsville post office, perhaps at the site so identified on contemporary maps, or possibly at a point several miles west, at or near where the Danville Road (now US 15D) crosses the Little Beech Fork River.<sup>4</sup> On June 25, 1850 this office became Baker's (with Henry Baker, postmaster) probably at the site of Baker's Inn, a stage stop on the Danville Rd. In January 1853 Walter C. Campbell either moved the office again or simply had its name changed to Texas. A community grew up at the Texas site (or there may already have been a community there called Locust Grove) on the Danville Road, about one mile east of the river (and seven miles ese of Springfield).

After several vicinity site changes the Texas post office ceased as an independent office in 1964 but continued as a community post office till the store which housed it burned in 1978. Whence Texas as a name is not known. There is probably nothing to the story that it was named for a local storekeeper called "Tex" for there is no record of such a person there in the early 1850s and "Tex" was not a personal nickname that early. Washington County's Texas was the only post office ever in Kentucky to bear this name.

Meanwhile, the village of Pottsville, 2½ miles up the Danville Rd. from Texas, had no post office of its own until February 13, 1884 when Danish-born John Jenson re-established the local office as Jensonton. His preferred name, Pottsfeld, was apparently unacceptable to the postal authorities and Pottsville was then in use in Graves County. When Jensonton closed in March 1907, the community again became Pottsville, and it still is.

A post office somewhere on the Beech Fork River was given that name when it was established on February 8, 1848 with Edwin Knapp as its first postmaster. He was succeeded the following year by Samuel A. Beckham who ran the local warehouse. Since Charles E. Vreland and John H. Wakefield were later postmasters, this office may have been at or near the future Maud. The office closed in April 1873. The Beech Fork River, so called at least by 1775, heads just within Boyle County and extends through Marion, Washington, and Nelson Counties to join the Rolling Fork of Salt River at the Hardin-Nelson County line.

At or near the site of James Ryan's fulling mill, which had been built around 1797 on Beech Fork, a post office called Ryan's Mills (sic) was established on July 26, 1848 with William G. Logan, postmaster.<sup>5</sup> In 1852

postmaster Newton Bird moved the office about a mile downstream to the vicinity of the Richard and Francis Berry home called Beechland, where it was given this name. Beechland may have been named for the stream or for an avenue of beech trees leading from the stream to the home itself. By 1886, during David Fitzgerald's forty year tenure as postmaster, the office, still called Beechland, was at a site called Fitz's Toll Gate, on what later became Ky 53, one mile up Mayes Creek from Beech Fork and some 7½ miles nne of Springfield. In this vicinity the post office continued operation through June 1904.

On July 28, 1892 Uriah Edwin Litsey<sup>6</sup> established the Litsey post office on the south side of the Beech Fork, probably at the original Beechland post office site, and 2½ miles southwest of Fitzgerald's post office. Other names proposed for this office were Lincoln for its proximity to the old Thomas Lincoln farm and Kelly for another local family. By 1895 this post office was on the north bank of Beech Fork where it closed in April 1903.

Since the turn of the twentieth century the Litsey-Beechland area has also been known as Poortown, possibly for the state of the local economy that never quite recovered from the 1893 depression or, it has been suggested, for a local family of Poors.<sup>7</sup> The county's late historian, Orval W. Baylor, once related the story of a stranger who arrived at a crude assemblage of temporary shelters to observe a party of surveyors laying off the lots for a new town. When told what they were doing he replied, scornfully, "It'll be a damn poor town."<sup>8</sup> While neighborhood maps show Poortown, the published state and federal maps show Litsey where the present Ky 438 crosses the Beech Fork, one mile above (south of) the mouth of Mayes Creek and about eight miles nne of Springfield.

A hamlet long known as Thompsonville has been centered at the junction of the present Ky 152 and Kelly Shop Lane,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles northeast of Springfield. Here, on July 29, 1850, the Thompsonville post office was established, probably in Elisha Adams' store, with Joseph M. Kirkland, its only postmaster. It was named for the family of Stith Thompson, a nearby landowner, whose pioneer grandfather, also Stith, had acquired some land on nearby Beech Fork before 1790. Though the office lasted only two years, the local store continued to serve its rural patrons. In late 1887 residents petitioned for another post office, but since Thompsonville was too similar to Tompkinsville (the Monroe County seat), the names of three area families (Fenwick, Logsdon, and another) were submitted instead, and Fenwick was adopted. From March 1, 1888 through November 1906 Mrs. Diana Smith ran the Fenwick post office, while the community, to this day, continues as Thompsonville.

On the south bank of Chaplin River, by the present Ky 53 ( $16\frac{1}{2}$  miles northeast of Springfield), was the nineteenth century mill and trading village of Sharpsville. Until William Sharp established the post office in this name on March 18, 1858, the vicinity may have been called Dog Trot and, possibly, Sharp's Mill.<sup>9</sup> The post office closed in May 1907; the mills, stores, and other businesses are gone, and only some homes remain.

Sherwood W. Hundley gave his name to one of the few Kentucky post offices established during the Civil War, and one of the shortest lived. He served the Hundley post office as postmaster from July 31, 1862 until his death the following December when the office closed. Its location remains unknown. Sherwood was a descendant of pioneer landowner Anthony Hundley who had settled on Pleasant Run in the southeastern part of the county but had extensive landholdings in the north.<sup>10</sup>



The Seaville post office on the present Ky 390, twenty miles northeast of Springfield, served the families of the three Sea brothers and their Sulphur Creek neighbors from March 16, 1874 through August 1914. One of the brothers, Leonard H. was the first postmaster and operated the office in his country store. The Seas were sons of Leonard, Sr. (1774-1842), a Virginian who had settled in the Sharpsville area some years before.<sup>11</sup>

Mooreville, named for a local family, centered on several stores and Henry B. Moore's distillery at the junction of the present Ky 55 and 458, 9½ miles north of Springfield. The local post office was established in Benedict J. Ross' store on July 8, 1874, with Ross as its first postmaster. Subsequent postmasters included two of Henry's sons. The office closed in November 1906.

The hamlet of Walton's Lick (now Polin) grew up around the pioneer salt lick owned by and named for Matthew Walton (1759-1819). This is where Ky 433 now crosses Lick Creek (once called Walton's Lick Creek), just above the latter's confluence with Long Lick Creek (and about thirteen miles north of Springfield). The first of its three post offices was established as Walton's Lick on September 23, 1879, with Charles W. Swanson, postmaster. But it closed in June 1881. It re-opened the following March as Sutherland, with William Sutherland, postmaster, but it again closed, in May 1883. County surveyor Enos Polin re-established the post office on March 1, 1888 but, like Sutherland before him, found the Walton's Lick name unacceptable to the postal authorities. So while the community continued to be called Waltons Lick, the post office was Polin until it closed in December 1908. The community is now identified as Polin on most published maps. Enos was the son of Irish-born John Polin (1816-1897) who had settled on Beech Fork before the Civil War.

In 1810 Joshua Ferguson had a boat yard and water-powered grist mill just across Beech Fork River from Nelson County. This was later acquired by a Mr. Ray, and the settlement that grew up around it was thus called Ray's Mill. After Lewis C. Bascum settled in the vicinity the community became Racum, and was later called Glenville for its picturesque valley location. The McLean County post office of Glenville led to the consideration of several other names for storekeeper Francis Lemuel Ferriell's new post office: Camp Ground for the Methodist facility across the river, Settles for a local mill owning family, and Ferrell(Sic). But these too were disallowed. The office opened on August 2, 1880 as Maud, named for a famous trotting horse of that day. Until it closed in March 1983, it served a hamlet on Ky 55, just east of the river, and 9½ miles nnw of Springfield.

A Montfort family, of whom nothing is known, most likely gave its name to a post office established by William W. Carey on February 26, 1886. This was on the north side of Chaplin River, just opposite the mouth of Glens Creek (fifteen miles nne of Springfield) and served the Carey family's nearby grist mill. In October 1893, with the completion of the Tatham Springs Hotel and health resort on Careys Island in the river, the post office was renamed Tatham Springs [tā/təm]. Some members of Samuel Tatham's family had invested in this enterprise. The resort with its medicinal springs was a popular summer vacation spot for the Bluegrass elite until its old fashioned amenities could no longer compete with more modern resorts elsewhere, and it closed in 1940. By then the hotel had been acquired for the University of Kentucky-sponsored Robert Worth Bingham Memorial 4-H camp which, some twenty five years later, was removed to Wayne County. The Tatham Springs post office closed in June 1919.

The post office of Cardwell, said to have been named for Luddie Cardwell of a prominent Washington County family, operated from April 9, 1886 through May 1907, three fourths of a mile south of Chaplin River and 19¼ miles northeast of Springfield. George Washington Foster was the first postmaster. Of the three stores and several other businesses serving this northeast Washington County community by the turn of the twentieth century, only Randall Burns' store survives.

The first of the three post offices serving stations on the L&N Railroad's Bardstown Branch was Valley Mill.<sup>12</sup> Established on March 1, 1888 by Thomas S. Grundy just east of Cartwrights Creek and about where the present Ky 55 joins the Booker Road (five miles nnw of Springfield), it was named for the nearby Grundy family home built by Thomas' father, Charles Grundy, in 1822. The office was discontinued in November 1906. The depot and nearby store are closed as is the school, some two miles south.

The next Bardstown Branch post office was Booker serving Mooreville (later Booker) Station on Hog Run, 3½ rail miles northwest of Valley Hill. It was established on May 21, 1890 with Charles Thomas Berry, the first postmaster, and named for the Booker family of prominent Springfield attorneys and county officials. The two brothers, William Brown and Paul Jones Booker, had represented the county in the state legislature before the Civil War. William's son, William Fred, was county clerk from 1870 till his death in 1913. The office closed in June 1914.

Croakeville, less than one mile from the Nelson County line and two miles west of Booker, was the post office serving Croake's Station from May 14, 1892 through October 1905. It was named for the family of its only postmaster, Everett Croake.

A post office on the present Ky 53, less than a mile south of Sulphur Creek and two miles west of Seaville, was to have been called Drury, probably for the local family of Harvey Drury. But the office, operating between February 24, 1890 and September 1911, was called Kirkland instead, probably for another area family. Storekeeper Wade H. Morgan, Jr. was the first postmaster.

At least by the mid 1870s, according to the Beers map (1877), there was a community called Jenkinsville on the Harrodsburg Road (now Ky 152), just west of Glens Creek and 1½ miles east of Mackville. It may have been named for one of the Jenkins families then in the Mackville area. In the early summer of 1889 John Halliday proposed a post office to serve this community that would be called Halliday. It was not until June 6 of the following year, however, that James A. Bottom opened the Jenkinsville (sic) post office that provided mail services till August 1897.

From January 31, 1891 to September 1893 a post office called Yancey was operated by, and probably named for, William Henderson Yancey in his store somewhere near the head of Water Run. On February 19, 1901, a little to the south of Yancey's store, the Pulliam post office was established by William H. Pulliam. This was at or very near the junction of the present Rts. 1796 and 1754, fourteen miles nne of Springfield. It closed in July 1904.

John Milton Williams established the sptly named Maple Hill post office on February 26, 1892. This was on the present Ky 458, about one mile south of Chaplin River and seventeen miles north of Springfield (in what is now known as the Mt. Zion Neighborhood). It closed at the end of 1904.

The McIntire post office, established by Hillory McIntire on April 6, 1892, was on the old road from Springfield to Manton (now Rt. 1183), between the Bear Wallow and Wheatley Branch (of Cartwright), some six miles west of Springfield. It was discontinued in November 1906. The McIntires were an

old Washington County family whose progenitor may have been Josiah, a native of Ireland who had come to America before the Revolution. John McIntire was a Washington County Justice of the Peace before 1800, while Thomas McIntire is listed on the county's first tax roll.

Just short of where the Simmstown (or Arnolds Airport) Road crosses the Marion County line,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles west of Pleasant Run and  $6\frac{1}{4}$  miles sse of Springfield, was the Simms post office. Operated from December 18, 1896 to April 1903 by James M. Lankford and his father-in-law William L. Smith, this served the nearby Simms family settlement for which it was named. The settlement with one or two stores and a blacksmith shop centered on John Simms II's two story brick home nearly a mile east. The local community, now merely homes, has been incorrectly labeled Simstown on published maps; the name Simmstown was only applied to the Simms' home now owned by Larry Hodge and the local road. Area residents have a Lebanon mailing address and do most of their shopping in the Marion County seat.

On July 11, 1899 storekeeper John A. (Gus) Johnson established a post office on the road between Mackville and Cardwell (now Rt. 1586), four miles northeast of Mackville. According to the late Vernon Moore, when Johnson's first suggestion, Thornton, for a thorn tree in front of the store, was rejected, he submitted Battle for the Battle Axe brand of shoes he had noted on an advertising poster.<sup>13</sup> The office closed in July 1904. A Baptist church and store still serve local residents.

The post office of St. Catharine, which only recently closed, has served the Dominican academy and motherhouse of that name since early 1900. The academy had been co-founded by Mother Angela Sansbury and Fr. Samuel T. Wilson on the Sansbury family's farm three miles northwest of

downtown Springfield to provide a Catholic education for area women. It was first called St. Magdalen until, in 1851, it was renamed for Catharine of Siena. The post office was established on February 27, 1900 as St. Catherines with Josie Holleran, postmaster.<sup>14</sup> and the spelling error was corrected in 1903. After a destructive fire the following year, the academy and motherhouse were rebuilt half a mile northeast, between Cartwrights Creek and the present US 150, and to this academy building Sr. Josie moved her post office in late 1905. The <sup>year</sup> two/St. Catharine College, founded in 1931, is just west of the academy.

The last post office to be established in the county was the short-lived Canary which, according to its only postmaster, Lee Hiatt, was half a mile east of Pleasant Run, two miles east of Beech Fork, and five miles east of downtown Springfield. Hiatt may have named it for his brother-in-law Abram Canary (ne 1846) who lived nearby. The office operated from March 25, 1902 through April 1903.

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Only three of Washington County's thirty six post offices--Springfield, Mackville, and Willisburg--are still in operation, serving the county's three present incorporated cities. Other once viable communities served by post offices were Maud, Fredericktown, Texas, Manton (Blincoe), Walton's Lick (Polin), Pottsville (Jensonton), Litsey, Thompsonville (Fenwick), Sharpsville, Mooresville, and Jenkinsville.

Twenty five offices were named for local or area persons/families. Four were given geographically descriptive names. To five were transferred the names of nearby features (two streams, a spa, a home, and a school). One was named for a brand of merchandise in a local store. The derivation of one (Texas) remains unknown. Seven offices have never been precisely located.

The names of ten post office were not those originally intended for them. Ten are known to have served places with other names. Three names were changed while the offices were in operation. As expected, sixteen offices were discontinued in the first ten years of the twentieth century with the coming of rural free delivery.

Finally, two post offices were established but never operated. On July 19, 1895 W.B. Hurt, of whom nothing seems to be known, was named the postmaster of Effie, but the order of establishment was rescinded in December. Neither the location nor the name origin of this proposed office has been learned.

An office to serve the St. Rose <sup>its</sup> Priory and/church was authorized on November 11, 1896 but it, too, failed to materialize. The Priory on Ky 152, three miles west of Springfield, was founded in 1806 on part of the pioneer Cartwright Creek settlement by the Maryland-born Dominican priest, Fr. Edward Fenwick. That and the church, built three years later, were named for the Dominican saint, Rose of Lima. Here too was St. Thomas Aquinas College (1809-1826), the first Catholic college west of the Alleghenies.

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Note: The post offices are located by road miles from the junction of US 150 (Ky 152) and Ky 555 (business) in downtown Springfield.

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#### FOOTNOTES

1. Preston McGrain and James C. Currens, Topography of Kentucky, Kentucky Geological Survey Series X, Special Publication 25, 1978, P. 73
2. Collins' 1847 history referred to the community as Maxville, while in Robert B. McAfee's memoirs (prepared around 1845) the community's name was given as Macksville.

3. Which of several pioneer Thompsons the creek was named for is not known. William owned much Chaplin River land but some distance upstream. James was Mercer County's first surveyor.
4. David Potts, his family's Washington County progenitor, lived at this crossing before 1800.
5. The Post Office Department erred here since there was only one mill at this site.
6. Uriah Edwin Litsey was the son of the Uriah Litsey (1813-1886) who had settled on Beech Fork in 1841, and was thus the brother of Judge Berry L. Litsey and W.H. Litsey, the local storekeeper.
7. No family of Poors is listed in fin-de-siècle Censuses.
8. "After the Wedding" in Orval W. Baylor's Washington County Historical Series, Article #31, Springfield Sun, February 22, 1934
9. Letter by Mrs. Faye Sanders, July 21, 1983, on file in the Library of the Kentucky Historical Society, Frankfort.
10. According to the Beers (1876) map, a Hundley then owned some land a mile or so northeast of the future Mooresville.
11. Sanders, op. cit.
12. This twenty mile extension of the Bardstown Branch from Bardstown to Springfield was completed on February 1, 1888. It was abandoned in 1984.
- ~~12~~. According to the 1870 Census, Joseph M. Kirkland was a forty nine year old merchant in the Thompsonville area. But no Kirklands have been noted in any subsequent Censuses.
13. Other suggested derivations of the Battle name have been a brand of tobacco, a cereal packaged in Battle Creek, Michigan, and local disputes. According to a letter from Vermon Moore, April 13, 1987, and other correspondence on file at the Kentucky Historical Society Library that were shared with me by Linda Anderson, Reference Librarian.



14. Her name is given in the 1900 Census as Johanna Hollahan (nee December 1859) whose parents came from Ireland.

REFERENCES

1. Baylor, Orval, Early Times in Washington Co., Ky. Cynthiana: The Hobson Press, 1942
2. Bicentennial Edition of the Springfield Sun, Jan. 31, 1974
3. Kelly, Mary Mary D., Springfield, Ky., interviewed by the writer on August 10, 1977
4. Pioneer History of Washington Co., Ky. as compiled from newspaper articles by Orval W. Baylor and others, edited by Michael L. and Bettie Ann Cook, Owensboro: Cook-McDowell Publications, 1980
5. Rennick, Robert M. Kentucky Place Names, Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1984
6. Richardson, Mrs. Edmund I. "Fredericktown" Kentucky Ancestors, Vol. 3 (1), July 1967, P. 7.
7. Thompson, Mrs. Dudley, manuscript history of Mackville for the local Homemakers Club, in the Springfield Sun, ca. 1940. A copy is in the Vertical Files-Washington County, Library of the Kentucky Historical Society.
8. United States Post Office Department: Site Location Reports--Washington County, Ky. Post Offices, National Archives (Washington, DC)  
Springfield, Ky.,
9. Washington Co, Ky. Bicentennial History, 1792-1992, 1991, passim, but especially the section on communities by Linda Anderson.
10. Webb, Hazel C. An Interesting Story About Maud, ms. (1969) sent to me by the author, July 14, 1980

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"AN INTERESTING STORY ABOUT MAUD"

A number of years ago, there came to the northwest section of Washington County, a Mr. Ray who settled on a hill overlooking the fertile valley and Mr. Ray conceived the idea of building a flour and grist mill nearby. This was done and a dam erected across the river near his home; a race was dug to convey water to the mill.

The spot was then known as Ray's mill. Soon thereafter, a Mr. Bascom built a home, settled and practiced there. The name of the community then became "Racum", which stood for a while. A few homes sprang up and the name was changed to "Glenville:", named for the beautiful valley surrounding it. A postoffice later was established in that name. Soon it was found that there was an older one by the same name in McLean County.

After several suggestions for names, the postoffice department sent the name of "Maud", adopted because of the then recent record made by MaudS, a famous trotter. This postoffice is still in existence after more than 75 years of service. Mrs. Hazel Webb is the present postmaster, having succeeded the late Thurman Chessner, who was Postmaster for many years and also owned and operated a general store here.

The mill above mentioned was sold to Ben Pile, who erected and operated a distillery and sawmill for a few years before it was closed. It then passed from one owner to another through a period of years until water power became uncertain. Modern machinery not being installed, the mill soon became obsolete and finally was dismantled. So ends Ray's mill.

A residence and store were erected and in operation for a number of years, passing to many different owners. Finally the store was removed and the house used by numerous persons. It was destroyed by fire. A concrete block plant now houses this site, and is known as Yates Truck Line, Inc. familiar in many states.

Other store sprang up and prospered. The late Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Yates operated here for a number of years. Mr. and Mrs. Albert Taylor own the general store and have operated it for a number of years. Also there is a cream station operated by Ernest Crume of Bardstown, Kentucky. Two or three blacksmiths shops have been in existence at one time, and are all out of business.

A number of physicians practiced at Maud, the last being Dr. J.N. Shehan, who practiced for about 30 years.

A Christian Church was erected at Maud in 1888 and flourished for a number of years under the leadership of some of the pioneer gospel preachers. In late years, a large part of the membership moved from the community, thus weakening the congregation. Later a cyclone moved and partly wrecked the church building. It was then sold, leaving the community without a church.

In the early days of this community, a boat yard was located nearby. These flatboats were built, loaded and sent down the river when a freshet came suitable for the start. These were loaded with farm products that were taken mostly to the New Orleans Market.

A few years ago Maud School was discontinued and young folks now board a school bus to Springfield, some twelve miles away.

Much more could be said in detail but time forbids and this closes the final chapter in the history of "Ray's Mill," "Racum" and "Glenville" and on to "Maud".

1969 — Hazel C Webb Postmaster

Cunningham  
1826-1828

✓ gift Po.  
1/7/1826, in gift  
closed before  
1832 (1830 acc to P & A)

WASHINGTON COUNTY, KY. POST OFFICES

- ✓ 1. SPRINGFIELD (C.H.)- 4/9/1796, Isaac Lansdale; 7/1/1803, Wm. Head....
- ✓ 2. FREDERICKTOWN- 12/15/1828, Edward G. Overton; 7/28/1834, George Connor.... 7/31/1902, George W. McIntire; Disc. 2/28/1911 (mail to Springfield);  
Est 1826, John E. Edishville (?)
- ✓ 3. MACKVILLE- 7/13/1830, John M. Williams; 2/8/1833, John Henderson....
- (mercer) ✓ 4. YOCOM'S- before 1833, Thomas C. Yocom; 10/29/1833, Mathew (sic) Yocom; Disc. 9/9/1835;  
Est 1826
- ✓ 5. MANTON- 2/13/1838, George W. Moore; 8/24/1838, Edmund Elliott; Disc. 9/8/1841; → 26  
P.S. Yocom
- ✓ 6. PAOLI- 2/13/1838, Allen Yocom; 2/2/1839, Branford Farris; Disc. 12/11/1839;
- ✓ 7. THOMPSONS CREEK- 9/7/1839, John Rutherford; Disc. 2/15/1840; maybe mercer co.
- ✓ 8. BEECH WOODS- 12/3/1844, Thomas Leachman; Disc. 3/17/1845;
- ✓ 9. WILLISBURGH- 12/3/1844, Wm. W. Phelps; 7/24/1845, John Yocom; Disc. 9/19/1845; Re-est. 4/28/1847, Andrew D. Carlyl (sic); 10/14/1847, Erasmus D. Askins.... (by 1890s, the final "h" had been dropped)....
- ✓ 10. SNIDER'S- 2/23/1847, Jacob Snider; Disc. 9/8/1849; Re-est. 8/28/1850, Jacob Snider; Disc. 4/15/1856;
- ✓ 11. POTTSVILLE- 6/16/1847, Henry B. Potts; changed to Bakers, 6/25/1850, Henry Baker; 4/3/1852, Waller C. Campbell; changed to Texas, 1/15/1853, Waller C. Campbell; 1/3/1856, Robert P. Steenbergen; 3/18/1858, Marcus D. Steenbergen; .... 7/26/1866, Thomas C. Rinehart; Disc. 8/4/1869; Re-est. 9/20/1869, Peter C.W. Peterson; 4/6/1881, Geo. S. Goode....

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WASHINGTON COUNTY, KY. POST OFFICES (2)

- ✓ 12. BEECH FORK- 2/8/1848, Edwin Knapp; 2/8/1849, Samuel A. Backham.... 9/14/1864, J.N. Ferguson; Disc. 11/8/1865; Re-est. 4/24/1866, Charles E. Vreland; 5/16/1866, Alden P. Quint; 4/19/1867, John H. Wakefield; Disc. 4/18/1873;
- ✓ 13. RYANS MILLS- 7/25/1848, Wm. G. Logan; 7/26/1850, Newton Bird; name changed to Beechland, 1/20/1852 or 6/20/1852, Newton Bird; 8/20/1853, Wm. H. Ryan.... 2/8/1860, Michael L. Yager; Disc. 12/31/1861; Re-est. 6/19/1862, David Fitzgerald; Disc. 11/30/1865; Re-est. 6/5/1866, David Fitzgerald; 4/14/1903, Sallie Fitzgerald; Disc. 6/8/1904, effective 6/30/1904 (mail to Springfield);
- ✓ 14. THOMPSONVILLE- 7/29/1850, Joseph M. Kirkland; Disc. 8/4/1852;  
→ 27
- ✓ 15. SHARPSVILLE- 3/18/1858, Wm. Sharp; Disc. 5/16/1860; Re-est. 10/22/1867, Hezekiah Gardner; 1/4/1871, James W. Graham; Disc. 5/15/1907, effective 5/31/1907 (mail to Mackville);
- ✓ 16. HUNDLEY- 7/31/1862, Sherwood W. Hundley; Disc. 1/2/1863 (?);
- ✓ 17. SEAVILLE- 3/16/1874, Leonard H. Sea; 4/26/1877, Wesley Robinson.... 9/21/1905, George T. Cornish; Disc. 8/31/1914 (mail to Cornishville);
- ✓ 18. MOORESVILLE- 7/8/1874, Benedict J. Ross; 4/18/1877, Albert D. Marshall.... 6/22/1883, Lucas Moore; 8/15/1884, Edward R. Moore; 12/6/1888, John R. Moore.... 2/18/1901, Wm. S. Good; Disc. 9/6/1904, effective 9/30/1904 (mail to Booker); Re-est. 5/10/1905, Samuel E. Yocum; Disc. 11/5/1906, effect. 11/30/1906 (mail to Springfield);
- ✓ 19. WALTONS LICK- 9/23/1879, Charles W. Swanson; 4/15/1880, David B. Sutherland; Disc. 6/6/1881;  
→ Polin (78)
- ✓ 20. MAUD- 8/2/1880, Francis L. Trimble; 6/22/1883, Lot Wakefield....  
Disc. 1905  
Kerrill
- ✓ 21. SUTHERLAND- 3/22/1882, Wm. Sutherland; Disc. 5/16/1883 (papers to Maud);

WASHINGTON COUNTY, KY. POST OFFICES (3)

- ✓ 22. JENSONTON- 2/13/1884, John Jenson; 7/8/1885, Samuel M. Campbell; 1/22/1886, Paulina Jenson.... 2/12/1906, Sarah J. Key; Disc. 3/6/1907, effective 3/15/1907 (mail to Smithfield, Henry County-?) →
- ✓ 24. MONTFORT- 2/26/1886, Wm. W. Carey; 9/7/1887, Wm. T. Head.... 4/9/1891, Samuel L. Foster; changed to Tatham Springs, 10/27/1893, Samuel L. Foster; 5/10/1899, Wm. L. Keeling.... 4/19/1917, Wm. E. Foster; Disc. 6/30/1919 (mail to Willisburg);
- ✓ ~~23.~~ SWORD- 11/24/1884, L.P. Sword;   
 (Pike Co.)
- ✓ 25. CARDWELL- 4/9/1886, George W. Foster; 11/12/1889, Mary E. Perkins.... 12/8/1905, James F. Mobley; Disc. 5/15/1907, effective 5/31/1907 (mail to Mackville);
26. BLINCOE- 4/16/1886, John G. Roby; 9/6/1895, Thomas Newton.... 2/11/1914, Wm. E. Blanford; Disc. 5/31/1914 (mail to Loretto);
- 14 → 27. FENWICK- 3/1/1888, Mrs. Diana Smith; Disc. 11/5/1906, effective 11/30/1906 (mail to Springfield);
- 19 → 28. POLIN- 3/1/1888, Enos Polin; 7/25/1888, Thomas J. Trent, Jr.; Disc. 12/31/1908 (mail to Willisburg);
- ✓ 29. VALLEY HILL- 3/1/1888, Thomas S. Grundy; 3/10/1888, Thomas L. Grundy.... 7/28/1898, Richard O'Connor; Disc. 8/26/1899 (papers to Croakeville); Re-est. 3/31/1900, Wm. G. Grundy; 6/21/1900, Mamie Dorsey.... 7/6/1901, Thomas C. Tatum; Disc. 11/12/1906, effective 11/30/1906 (mail to Springfield);
30. KIRKLAND- 2/24/1890, Wade H. Morgan, Jr.; 10/25/1895, John H. Morgan.... 7/12/1907, Oscar A. Brown; Disc. 9/30/1911 (mail to Seaville);
31. BOOKER- 5/21/1890, Charles T. Berry; 10/27/1893, Wm. Scott.... 4/10/1906, Wm. H. Payne; Disc. 6/15/1914 (mail to Springfield);



WASHINGTON COUNTY, KY. POST OFFICES (4)

- ✓ 32. YANCEY- 1/31/1891, Wm. H. Yancey; Disc. 9/7/1893 (papers to Montfort);  
→ Pulliam (43)
- ✓ 33. MAPLE HILL- 2/26/1892, John M. Williams; 12/26/1900, Charles M. Williams; Disc. 12/17/1904, effective 12/31/1904 (mail to Willisburg);
- ✓ 34. McINTIRE- 4/6/1892, Hillory McIntire; 11/23/1895, Wm. L. Thompson; 7/3/1899, Thomas E. Ballard; Disc. 11/5/1906, effective 11/30/1906 (mail to Springfield);
- ✓ 35. CROAKEVILLE- 5/14/1892, Everett Croake; Disc. 10/9/1905, effective 10/31/1905 (mail to Booker);
- ✓ 36. LITSEY- 7/28/1892, Uriah E. Litsey; Disc. 10/11/1895 (mail to Valley Hill); Re-est. 1/8/1896, Byon Parks; 12/27/1899, Charles W. Oder; 11/1/1902, Elbridge J. Pinkston; Disc. 4/16/1903, effective 4/30/1903 (papers to Springfield);
- ✓ 37. EFFIE- 7/19/1895, W.B. Hurt, order rescinded 12/3/1895;
- ✓ 38. SAINT ROSE- 11/11/1896, Mattie ? , order rescinded;
- ✓ 39. SIMMS- 12/18/1896, James M. Lankford; 5/4/1899, Wm. L. Smith; Disc. 4/8/1903, effective 4/18/1903 (papers to Lebanon);
- ✓ 40. BATTLE- 7/11/1899, John A. Johnson; 2/19/1902, Mary A. Perkins; Disc. 6/20/1904, effective 7/14/1904 (papers to Mackville);
- ✓ 41. JENKENSVILLE- 6/6/1890 (sic), James A. Bottom; 3/14/1892, Richard R. Isham; .... 7/6/1901, John H. Robinson; Disc. 7/15/1907, effective 8/15/1907 (mail to Rosehill);
- ✓ 42. SAINT CATHERINES- 2/27/1900, Josie Holleran; name changed to Saint Catharine (sic), 6/2/1903, Josie Holleran; 4/4/1914, Sister Francis (sic) O'Malley;
- ✓ 43. PULLIAM- 2/19/1901, Wm. H. Pulliam; 10/16/1901, Casius (sic) C. Foster; 5/6/1903, John A. Johnson; Disc. 7/1/1904, effective 7/15/1904 (papers to Hillsboro);  
yancey (32)
- ✓ 44. CANARY- 3/25/1902, Lee Hiatt; Disc. 4/16/1903, effective 4/30/1903 (papers to Springfield);

# Washington Co. communities

- \*1. Springfield (co. seat) ①
- \*2. Fredericktown (dpo, com) ①
- \*3. Mackville (com, & po) ①
- \*4. Yokom's (dpo) (mercen co.)
5. Manton (dpo) (com) ~~←~~ ← B Lincoe (sta) (Dpo, com) ①
- \*6. ~~W~~ Willisburg (po and com) had been Paeola or Paoli ①
7. Thompsons Creek (dpo)
8. Beech Woods (dpo)
- \*9. Snider's (dpo) (Fairview) (P)
10. Texas (dpo and com) ① had been Bakers; before that Pottsville
11. Beech Fork (dpo)
- \*12. Beechland (dpo) ~~had been Ryans Mills~~
- \*13. Thompsonville (dpo) (com) ~~←~~ ← Fenwick (dpo, com) ①
- \*14. Sharpville (dpo) (com) X
- \*15. Hundley (dpo)
- \*16. Seaville (dpo)
- \*17. Mooresville (dpo) (com) X
- \*18. ~~Waltons Lick (dpo)~~
- \*19. Maud (po and com) ①
20. Sutherland (dpo)
- \*21. Jenson-ton (dpo) (Pottsville) (YR)
22. Tatham Springs (dpo) had been Montfort (com) X
- ~~23. Sword (dpo) (Pine co.)~~
- \*24. Cardwell (dpo) X (com) ①
- ~~25. Blincoe (dpo) (com) ①~~
- ~~26. Fenwick (dpo) (com) ①~~ ← Walton's Lick (ake Handeuty)
- \*27. Polin (dpo) (com) ← ①
- \*28. Valley Hill (dpo) (com) X
- \*29. Kirkland (dpo) (com) X
- \*30. Booker (dpo) (com) X
- \*31. Yancey (dpo) — Pulliam
- \*32. Maple Hill (dpo)
- \*33. McIntire (dpo)
- \*34. Croakville (dpo) croakes (com) (ngbr)
- \*35. Litsey (dpo) ① (com) → Poortown (Ryans mill pre-Litsey)
- 36. Effie (p.o. est. but never in op.)
- \*37. Saint Rose (ibid.)
- \*38. Simms (dpo) Sim(m)stown (com)
- \*39. Battle (dpo) (com) X
- \*40. Jenkinsville (dpo) (com)
- \*41. Saint Catherine (po and com) ~~and Brimstone~~
- \*42.31 Pulliam (dpo) (com) ①
43. Canary (dpo)
44. Tablow (com) X (mercen co.)
45. Brush Grove (com)
46. Fairview (~~Ngbr~~) (com)
- 47. Independence Ngbr.
- \*48.21 Pottsville (com)
- 49. Deep Creek Ngbr.
- 50. Mayes Sch. Ngbr.
- 51. Hickory Grove Ngbr.
- 52. Hillsboro Ngbr.
- 53. Hanby Sch. Ngbr.
- \*54. Hardesty (com)
- \*55. Pleasant Grove (com) (ngbr.)
- ~~Pleasant Town Ngbr.~~
- 56. Poor Town Ngbr.

- 57. McGill Ngbr.  
 \* 58. Cisselville (com)  
 — 59. Smith Ngbr.  
 60. Jimtown (com) (O)  
 \* 61. Rineltown (com)  
 25. ~~62.~~ Mt. Zion Ngbr.  
 56. ~~63.~~ ~~BearxWaxkoxv~~ Ngbrxv Bearwallow (com)  
 62. ~~64.~~

$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{nbr} = 11 \\ \text{post} = 2 \end{array} \right\} \text{excluded}$

$$N_T = 48$$

① = sample  
x = reserves